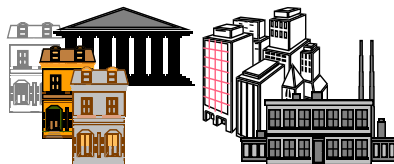


Houston-Leipzig Sister City Association



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members and Friends:

This is a special time for our association. Our fourth quarter will be memorable, starting with the 10th Anniversary festivities in October with *Calmus*, followed in November by the Leipzig String Quartet and winding up in December with a wonderful Christmas party.

Let's remember that on October 3, we are also celebrating the hundreds of thousands of visionaries who finally wrested their freedom from the hands of tyranny, which culminated in German Unification thirteen years ago. Some of these people have carried this spirit to Houston, a city that epitomizes America's freedom and diversity. These visionaries joined those who founded our association to promote international exchange and understanding.

Houston in turn has embraced Leipzig and Germany with open arms. We respond by actively participating in the Sister Cities of Houston organization, which is the umbrella organization for all 16 Houston sister cities. We also respond by supporting the International Festival, and numerous programs in local high schools plus memorable events such as the visit of Leipzig's Major Tiefensee last year. Even now 13 students and their professor from the University of Leipzig's American Studies program are visiting Houston to study volunteerism in America: remarkable events in a remarkable relationship.

What is your remarkable relationship to Leipzig? Is it the world-class culture of the *Thomanerchor*, world-class opera, ballet, and *Gewandhaus* offerings, the *Waldstrassenviertel*, the beautiful countryside... etc? Maybe it's business related. Perhaps you have family and friends in Leipzig and eastern Germany. These freedom-loving people opened their hearts and minds to western Germans, Dutch and American

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LET'S CELEBRATE!!!

Come and Join us for the

Houston-Leipzig Sister City Association's
10th Anniversary Banquet

and the

Fabulous Sounds of *Calmus*
Leipzig's Popular Singing Group



6:00 p.m. Courtyard Reception

7:00 p.m. Dinner

8:00 p.m. Entertainment by *Calmus*

Parish Hall

Christ the King Lutheran Church
2353 Rice Boulevard



\$25.00 per person

R.S.V.P. by Thursday, October 2, to Nancy Pusser at
713-973-9399 or by email Nancy@Bebitz.us

CALMUS ENSEMBLE

"To sing with passion and to arouse passion for singing" is the leitmotiv of *Calmus*. The members of the group grew up with music and song in their lives. Anja Lipfert (soprano) trained in the *MDR-Kinderchor* (Children's Choir of Central German Radio); Sebastian Krause (countertenor), David Erler (countertenor), Ludwig Boehme (baritone), Ulrich Barthel (bass) and Martin Latke (tenor) are all alumni of the famous *Thomanerchor*, the choir directed for many years

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President's Message, *Continued from p. 1*

(especially Houston) colleagues who teamed up to reconstruct an industrial cornerstone in Leipzig. The human relations and friendships that have grown from this time remain active and priceless.

As our association enters its second decade let's continue to promote the international ties and spirit that bind our two great cities together. We look forward to your continuing active support and input to further promote global understanding, freedom and peace. Our team effort will continue to make remarkable progress during this most memorable time in history.

See you on October 4th!

Your President-Elect,

Roy de Gesero

Calmus, *Continued from p. 1*

by Johann Sebastian Bach at the St. Thomas church in Leipzig.

The six voices blend in a unique sound unparalleled in choral ensembles in Germany. Their repertory spans centuries in sacred music from the time of the Gregorian chants to the present, as well as secular music of all types. Whether it is a madrigal, folksong, chanson or rock and pop songs or evergreens from the Comedian Harmonists, the sextet interprets the pieces with its own special magic.

In addition to their own arrangements, the group sings works commissioned and created especially for them.

The group is in demand by other artists from different fields of music. They perform together with the baroque ensemble *Leipziger Concert*, with the organist from St. Thomas Prof. Ulrich Boehme, and other artists. Currently they are also participating in an intriguing cross-over project in experimental jazz.

The sextet won first prize at the 4th International Robert Schumann Choral Competition, as well as several prizes and stipends in artistic competitions.

Their visit to the United States lasts from October 2 to 9. On October 5, they will open the season of the Bach Choir and Orchestra at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2353 Rice Boulevard, Houston, TX 77005, at 5:00 p.m.

LEIPZIG STRING QUARTET

We are pleased to join with the Houston Friends of Music to present the Leipzig String Quartet on Tuesday, November 11, 2003, 8:00 p.m. at the Stude Concert Hall at Rice University. As a member or friend of HLSCA, you have the opportunity to purchase tickets to this fine concert at a discount. Single ticket prices range from \$28 - \$46, but with the discount the reserved seats will be only \$20. Seats will not be in a block, but will be drawn from available seating. To receive the discount price, tickets must be ordered through HLSCA and the deadline is November 4.

To order, please send a check, payable to HLSCA to:

Otto Goedecke, Treasurer
5544 Holly Springs
Houston TX 77056

Please be sure to include your name, phone number and the number of tickets that you wish to order. You may also order tickets at the dinner on October 4. Tickets may be picked up at the Will Call table on the evening of the concert.

The Leipzig String Quartet was founded in 1988. Three members were first chairs in the prestigious *Gewandhaus Orchestra*. They have played concerts all over the world, but are making their Texas debut at this concert in Houston. Their many recordings include the complete Schubert quartet literature, and works from Mozart to Cage. The BBC Radio 3 calls them "One of the most sophisticated and imaginative ensembles recording at the moment."

Come and Visit Us on the Web

www.germanconsulatehouston.org/Houston_Leipzig

www.sistercitieshouston.org

www.leipzig.de

SEND FAX, E-MAIL OR CALL YOUR EDITOR

Do you have news or an event to share? Want to comment, critique, create a column or communicate with other Leipzig aficionados? Call your editor at 713-973-9399, send a fax to 713-973-9499, or e-mail to angelika@hal-pc.org.